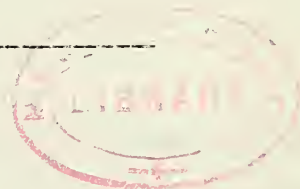


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A N N U A L R E P O R T

for 1941 on the

HEALTH OF EASTBOURNE

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Circumstances &c.

JOHN FENTON. M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O ., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

Whole time Officers.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Medical Officer of Health. | John Fenton. M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H. |
| Deputy Medical Officer of Health. | Theodore H. Parkman. M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (to June 17th). * Greta Lowe. M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M., D.T.H. (from June 17th). |
| Sanitary Inspectors. | Arthur Lindfield. Cert. R.S.I. (Senior). F.T. Rippin. Cert. R.S.I. L.J. Shepherd. Cert. R.S.I. G.N. Richards. Cert. R.S.I. L.R. Godfrey. Cert. R.S.I. |
| Health Visitors. | Miss O. Mack. (Superintendent). Miss E. Ward. Miss A. Wilcock. Miss I.K. Baillie (returned from Reception Area, 8th March). Miss W.G. Lower (13th January to 22nd February). |
| Clerical Staff. | H.T. Hounsom. (Lay Administrative Officer). A.H. Hookham. F.R. Met. Soc. W. L. Peck. * R. Putland. * Miss E. Waters. |

* Temporary.

Public Health Department,
EASTBOURNE.

August, 1942.

To His Worship the Mayor, and to the Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Eastbourne.

Mr Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen:

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health of Eastbourne for the year 1941. This is the fiftieth report in the series, and the third which it has been my privilege to submit. Acting on the instructions of the Ministry of Health, this report will again be presented on the abbreviated lines of the reports for the years 1939 and 1940. In addition, on this occasion, on grounds of National security, one it not permitted to publish complete tables of local populations, or quotations from figures supplied by the Registrar General which might enable local population figures to be reconstructed.

The period under review covers parts of the second and third years of war, and despite the many inevitable departures from normal peace-time conditions of living, the health of the people was very satisfactory and gave little cause for concern.

Rationing of many articles of food and other departures from what had come to be regarded as normal standards of living do not appear to have adversely affected the health of the community. In this connection, communal feeding at School Canteens, British Restaurants, and other Centres, has undoubtedly been of very great advantage to many sections of the population. In addition, under the scheme initiated in July 1940 by the Ministry of Food, a supply of liquid milk (dried for children up to one year) continued to be made available for children up to 5 years, and for expectant mothers. This milk was provided free of cost to persons below certain income limits and at the modest price of two pence a pint for others. In November the Scheme was extended to include the provision of certain vitamin preparations for children up to 5 years. A very marked increase in the consumption of milk and vitamin preparations by those who really need them has been the gratifying result. The supply of milk to various classes of invalids, including persons suffering from tuberculosis, was also provided for under arrangements made by the Ministry of Food.

The incidence of infectious disease has been unusually low. The increase in the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis in certain age groups which has been noted with some concern in other parts of the Country has fortunately not been apparent in Eastbourne.

We shared the experience of most Authorities in the increased prevalence of scabies. We were however fortunate in being able to treat most of the cases as in-patients in one of our hospitals, thereby considerably shortening the duration of the disease, and also lessening the liability of other members of the family to contract it.

The position with regard to the incidence of venereal disease is being very closely watched throughout the Country, but there is no evidence to shew that there was any increase in the number of cases in Eastbourne in 1941, in fact, the attendances at our Clinic were fewer than in the previous year.

Intense propaganda has been waged both Nationally and locally to further the campaign for the protection of children against diphtheria. The number of children immunised shows a big increase as compared with 1940. The increasing interest shewn by parents in this matter in the last year or two is very encouraging indeed, and the fact that so many individual children have been immunised is a distinct advance. To save the population as a whole however from epidemics of such a deadly and crippling disease, Public Health Authorities cannot rest satisfied till some 80 per cent of children of 15 years of age and under have been protected.

The individual, team, and combined training of the members of the Civil Defence Services for which the Department is responsible went on without interruption. The volunteers, both unpaid and paid, maintained a most commendable degree of keenness and enthusiasm.

This report once again gives me the opportunity of expressing to every member of the Staff of my Department my gratitude for their loyalty and hard work in a third abnormal year.

In conclusion, Mr Mayor, I wish to express to you, the Chairman and members of the Sanitary and Public Health Committee, and the members of the Council, my best thanks for your support and help.

I am, Mr Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

John Fenlon.

Medical Officer of Health.

Note: The figures in brackets throughout this Report are those for the previous year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

| | <u>Eastbourne.</u> | <u>England and Wales.</u> |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Birth rate per 1,000 | 13.92. | 14.2. |
| Death rate per 1,000 | 17.66. | 12.9. |
| Nett Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births. | 52.63. | 59. |

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Puerperal Sepsis | 0. |
| Other accidents of pregnancy and child birth | 1. 3.25 per 1,000 births. |

Death rates of infants under 1 year of age:

| | |
|--|--------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births | 52.63. |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births . | 54.34. |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | 35.71. |

Principal Causes of Death:

No. of Deaths.

| | |
|--|------|
| Diseases of the heart and circulatory system | 164. |
| Apoplexy | 71. |
| Cancer | 73. |
| Tuberculosis (pulmonary 11; non pulmonary 5) ... | 16. |
| Respiratory Diseases (Pneumonia 12) | 31. |
| Urinary Diseases | 23. |
| Violence | 14. |

| | |
|--|----|
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | 0. |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .. | 0. |
| Deaths from Influenza (all ages) | 6. |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... | 1. |

METEOROLOGY.

Sunshine was below the average, and the total was the twelfth highest in the Air Ministry's list for mainland stations. The total rainfall was the greatest since 1938.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------|
| <u>Temperature.</u> | Mean daily maximum | 54.9 degrees. |
| | Mean daily Minimum | 44.7 degrees. |
| | Mean daily combined | 49.8 degrees. |
| | Highest daily, 82 degrees on 9th July. | |
| | Lowest daily, 23 degrees on 3rd, 14th, and 18th January. | |
| <u>Sunshine:</u> | Total | 1683.5 hours. |
| | Daily | 4.61 hours. |
| | Recorded on 286 days. | |
| <u>Rainfall:</u> | Total | 30.47 inches. |
| | Rain days | 172. |
| | Highest daily total, 0.98 inches on 16th November. | |
| <u>Sea Temperature:</u> | Mean daily | 51.0 degrees. |
| | Daily range 64.3 to 37.1 in July and January respectively. | |
| <u>Prevailing Winds:</u> | West. | |
| <u>Humidity (Averages):</u> | 9 a.m. | 87 per cent. |
| | 5 p.m. | 84 per cent. |
| | 9 p.m. | 89 per cent. |
| <u>Snow:</u> | Recorded on 17 days. | |
| <u>Thunderstorms:</u> | Recorded on 5 days. | |
| <u>Fog:</u> | Recorded on 9 days. | |
| <u>Gales:</u> | Recorded on 4 days. | |
| <u>Ground Frost:</u> | Recorded on 70 nights. | |

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL SCHEME.

During the year, the following hospitals continued to be available for the reception and treatment of the sick and wounded.

| <u>Group 1.</u> | <u>Normal Capacity.</u> | <u>Maximum Capacity.</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| St. Mary's Municipal Hospital | 252. | 412. |
| Princess Alice Memorial Hospital .. | 120 . | 155. |
| All Saints Convalescent Hospital.... | 259. | 298. |
| Leaf Homoeopathic Hospital | 31. | 31. |

The following hospitals were withdrawn from the Scheme on May 5th:

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Gildredge Hospital | 24. | 24. |
| Municipal Maternity Home (Maternity). | 25. | 45. |
| Ear Nose and Throat Hospital | 20. | 20. |

Esperance Nursing Home (21 beds) and the London Homoeopathic Convalescent Home (17 beds) continued to be "suspended".

St. Mary's Hospital. The hospital continued to function as a complete Training School. Six probationer nurses sat for the final examination of the General Nursing Council, and 5 were successful: two probationer nurses sat for the preliminary examination, and both were successful.

Even greater difficulties were again experienced in finding nursing staff, and at the end of the year there were on the premanent staff:

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|------|------------------|----|------|
| Matron | 1. | (1) | Deputy Matron. | 1. | (1). |
| Sister Tutor and Theatre Sister. | 1. | (1) | Night Sister. | 1. | (1). |
| Ward Sisters... | 6. | (6) | Staff Nurses. | 4. | (8). |
| Probationers . | 24. | (39) | Male Nurse. | 1. | (1). |
| Masseuse | 1. | (1) | Assistant Nurse. | 1. | (2). |

(Figures in brackets denote the pre-war establishment for 252 beds).

The Civil Nursing Reserve again helped to some extent in making up the deficiency, 8 trained nurses, 2 assistant nurses, and 5 nursing auxiliaries being employed at December 31st.

The extension to the Nurses Home was completed and formally opened on 25th September. There is now excellent accommodation for 89 nurses.

The following are the statistics for the period 1st January to 31st December 1941, viz:

| | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> | <u>Children.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|---|---------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| In Hospital on 31st December 1940. | 51. | 73. | 6. | 130. |
| Admissions | 456. | 372. | 191. | 1019. |
| Discharges | 390. | 280. | 167. | 837. |
| Deaths. | 73. | 86. | 14. | 173. |
| Remaining in hospital on 31st December 1941 ... | 44. | 79. | 16. | 139. |
| Total "patient" days spent in the hospital by the above cases | | | | 49491. |
| Average number of beds occupied during the year | | | | 135. |
| Highest number of beds occupied (on 3rd December) | | | | 156. |
| Lowest number of beds occupied (on 7th May) | | | | 102. |
| Number of surgical operations | | | | 143. |
| Number of abdominal sections. | | | | 38. |
| Total number of patients seen in out-patient department | | | | 456. |
| Total number of attendances at out-patient department | | | | 2044. |
| Blood transfusions | | | | 17. |
| Total number of cases (all classes) for whom Government responsible.. | | | | 245. |

Forty five infirm cases for whom the Authority is responsible were still accommodated at All Saints Hospital on December 31st, as compared with 59 cases on January 1st.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The deaths of infants under 1 year were 16 as compared with 32 in 1940. The causes of death were: Prematurity 10: Diarrhoea 1: Pneumonia 1: Congenital malformations 3: Other causes 1.

There was 1 death of a woman from causes associated with pregnancy or child birth (4 in 1940).

The Government Evacuation Scheme for the evacuation of expectant mothers continued to function satisfactorily: 44 mothers were confined at Langton Green Maternity Home, Tunbridge Wells, and 14 at Old Surrey Hall, East Grinstead.

The two District Midwives who reside at 2 Birling Street, continued to do domiciliary midwifery, and arrangements were made for any abnormal cases who refused to be evacuated to be dealt with at St. Mary's Hospital. Ante Natal Clinics were held as usual throughout the year at the Maternity Home.

(a) Ante Natal Clinics. Held at the Municipal Maternity Home (twice weekly) and at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Number of expectant mothers attending | 378. |
| Number of attendances | 2384. |

(b) Dental Work. Arrangements were continued whereby a local dental practitioner carried out the dental work. Dentures were provided in 31 cases.

(c) Maternity Home. The Home at 9 Upperton Road/closed.

(d) Municipal Midwives. The midwives attended 115 confinement cases: 2266 ante natal visits were made, and patients made 1300 ante natal attendances at the Maternity Home.

(e) Midwives. Twenty midwives notified their intention to practise during the year, 9 of whom were employed at St. Mary's Hospital.

(f) St. Mary's Hospital. Thirty four confinements took place at this hospital.

(g) Unmarried Mothers. Provision was made during the year for the confinement of 8 unmarried mothers and the subsequent care of their infants.

(h) Medical Assistance. Medical assistance was sought by midwives in 74 cases, viz. Municipal Midwives 64, and private midwives 10.

(i) Infant Welfare Centres were held weekly at Hampden Park Hall, The Crypt of St. Elizabeth's Church, and St. Anthony's Hall, Seaside (from November). The following are the statistics relating to these Clinics:

| | |
|--|-------|
| Attendances of children under 5 | 3740. |
| Attendances of mothers | 737. |
| Attendances of expectant mothers | 118. |
| Number of children under 1 year of age | 219. |
| Number of children 1 - 5 years | 369. |

(j) Home Visiting. The four Health Visitors paid the following visits:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| To expectant mothers | 658. |
| To infants under 1 year | 1883. |
| To children 1 - 5 years | 4442. |

(k) Food. Special issues of foods were made on medical recommendation in certain cases.

(l) Orthopaedic Treatment. As the Orthopaedic Surgeon was unable to visit Eastbourne, 5 of our cases were seen by him at the Brighton Clinic. Fifteen of our cases received electrical and other forms of treatment as out-patients at St. Mary's Hospital, the number of attendances being 130.

(m) Infant Life Protection. At the end of the year 10 foster mothers were receiving 15 children for fee or reward.

(n) Boarding Out. At the end of the year, 6 children were boarded out by the Local Authority.

(o) Children in Institutions. At the end of the year there were 4 children in residential institutions at the cost of the Authority.

(p) Cottage Homes. (at Pinehurst, Heathfield). The number of cases dealt with in these Homes during the year was as follows:

| | |
|---|-----|
| In Homes on 1st January 1941 | 23. |
| Admitted during the year | 41. |
| Discharged or evacuated during the year... | 45. |
| Remaining in Homes on 31st December 1941... | 19. |

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The second Annual Report of the Eastbourne District Nursing Association for the year ending 31st March 1942 shews that some 6259 visits were paid by the Association's four nurses (one part time) to 260 patients, of whom 82 were chronic cases. The numbers of new members enrolled was regarded as satisfactory. The nurse employed by the Hampden Park District Nursing Association paid 1085 visits during the year: the nurse of the Westham and District Nursing Association paid 12 visits to Eastbourne cases, and the nurse of the St. Andrew's Parish paid 1352 visits. All connected with the organisation of nursing in the home in Eastbourne are to be congratulated on their continued efforts despite the many difficulties, to maintain this most important service on so efficient a basis.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water. The 30 bacteriological and 12 bacteriological and chemical samples taken by the Eastbourne Water Works Company and the Department shewed that the supply continues to be of the highest quality.

Inspections and Visits made by Sanitary Inspectors. The following tables and observations, together with those included in the sections on Housing and Inspection and Supervision of Food, gives some indication of the many and varied duties carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors.

| | | | |
|--|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Houses inspected. | 215. | Complaints investigated. | 275. |
| Re-inspections. | 1581. | Visits for sundry purposes | 2734. |
| Schools inspected. | 145. | Piggeries, stables &c. | 225. |
| Slaughter house visits | 1613. | Cowsheds inspections. | 225. |
| Dairies and shops selling milk. 317. | | Fruiterers Shops. | 148. |
| Butchers shops. | 353. | Fish Shops. | 98. |
| Other food stores. | 940. | Bakehouses. | 75. |
| Factories and Workplaces .. | 164. | Shops Act. | 111. |
| Food and Drugs Act. | 233. | Air Raid Shelters. | 1244. |
| Public Baths. | 33. | Smoke Observations. | 3. |
| Drains and soil pipes tested. 135. | | Visits in connection with infectious | |
| Houses disinfected | 185. | Diseases, Scabies or Vermin... | 248. |
| Bedding disinfected or disinfested... 188. | | | |

Many of the visits summarised under visits for sundry purposes were made in connection with damage to property and business premises and in the latter cases much time and attention was devoted to the salvaging of foodstuffs.

Cesspools. The continued co-operation between the Military and the Local Authority has overcome the difficulties previously experienced in the low lying part of the Borough due to the rapid filling of cesspools.

Factories Act 1937.

1. Inspections for the Purposes of Provisions as to Health.

| | Inspections. | No. of written notices. | Occupiers prosecutions. |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Factories with mechanical power. | 34. | - | - |
| Factories without mechanical power. | 71. | 3. | - |
| Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering but not including outworkers premises). | 3. | - | - |
| Total. | 108 | 3. | - |

2. Defects found.

| Particulars. | Number of defects | | | |
|---|-------------------|-----------|----------------------------|---------------|
| | Found. | Remedied. | Referred to H.M. Inspector | Prosecutions. |
| Want of cleanliness. (Section 1) | 9 | 9 | - | - |
| Overcrowding. (Section 2). | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature. (Section 3) | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation. (Section 4). | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6). | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7): | | | | |
| Insufficient. | - | - | - | - |
| Unsuitable or defective. | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| Not separate for sexes. | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the third schedule to the Factories Act. | - | - | - | - |
| Total. | 13 | 13 | - | - |

Basement Bakehouses. The occupiers of 5 basement bakehouses hold certificates of suitability, but only 4 were in use during the year. These were regularly inspected.

Outworkers Premises. No instance of outworkers in unwholesome premises was discovered.

Shops Acts. As a war time measure, the Sanitary Inspectors were, in June, appointed Inspectors for all sections of the Shops Acts. No statutory action was necessary to maintain the provisions of Section 10 of the Act of 1934 with respect to the health and comfort of shop workers.

Smoke Abatement. Although not a serious problem in Eastbourne, visits were made to boiler houses, and having regard to the indifferent quality of the fuel obtainable, the operators were found to be taking the best practicable means to prevent excess smoke.

Places of Public Entertainment. Those places of entertainment open during the year were regularly inspected and the usual high standard of cleanliness and sanitation maintained. Light screening has to some extent impaired ventilation but every effort was made to overcome the difficulties experienced in this connection.

Public Baths. (a) Swimming Baths. The fresh water baths at Old Town remained closed to the public throughout the year. At the Devonshire Baths, one of the two swimming baths was opened from 17th June to 30th September, and again from 8th November for the remainder of the year. Sea water at this bath is turned over on the continuous flow and filter system, with chlorine and ammonia added during the turnover. A free chlorine content of 0.5 parts per million is aimed at. The water was frequently sampled and the reports shewed that a high standard of purity was maintained.

(b) Slipper Baths. The accommodation at the Seaside Baths comprises 30 slipper baths, 15 for men and 15 for women. The numbers using these baths were 70,618 (42,338 in 1940). The accommodation at Old Town Baths provides for 12 males and 3 females, and was used by 25,921 persons (18,623 in 1940).

Public Health Act. Section 84. On inspection of furniture and bedding removed from damaged houses for storage by the Local Authority, a number of articles were found to be infested with vermin. The provisions of the above Section were applied and the articles destroyed.

Air Raid Shelters. Seven of the basement shelters were regularly used for sleeping purposes by a small number of people. As a health measure, it was decided to replace the chemical closets with water closets where the drains were at a suitable depth. During the year, 1244 visits were made to the 64 public shelters, and generally the shelters were maintained in a satisfactory condition. In one case formal action had to be taken to secure the cleansing of one person and his bedding. Several of the shelters are provided with drinking water, and all with First Aid equipment, but unfortunately in this connection a number of petty thefts have occurred.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act. In view of the urgent necessity in time of war to secure the destruction of rats and mice, all complaints of these pests were promptly investigated, and advice, and in most cases, baits given. In general it may be said that the campaign is waged at all times and with the co-operation of the public, infestation is kept down. In no case was formal action necessary. All sewers are regularly baited.

HOUSING.

No formal action under the Housing Act 1936 was taken during the year. The number of working class dwellings was further reduced during 1941, but fortunately not to the same extent as in 1940. Owing to the frequent movement of sections of the population, no accurate information is available as to the extent of overcrowding.

| | |
|---|------|
| Number of dwelling houses inspected during the year (under the Public Health and Housing Acts) | 215. |
| Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation | - |
| Number of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation | 65. |
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action | 83. |
| Formal notices served under Sec. 9. Housing Act 1936 | - |
| Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notice: | |
| 1. By owners | - |
| 2. By Local Authority | - |
| Formal notices served under Public Health Act | 1. |
| Number of houses in which defects were remedied: | |
| 1. By owners. | 1. |
| 2. By Local Authority | - |
| Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. | - |
| Number of houses demolished | - |
| Number of Closing Orders made in respect of underground rooms. | - |
| Number of Closing Orders determined, the underground rooms having been made fit | - |

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Food and Drugs Act 1938.

Sampling. (Section 3). A total of 65 formal and 5 informal samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, viz.

| | Samples taken. | Returned as: | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | Genuine. | Adulterated. |
| Milk | 27. | 21. | 6. |
| Samples other than milk. . | 43. | 42. | 1. |

In common with other Local Authorities throughout the Country, trouble was experienced with the very poor quality of the many food substitutes which appeared on the market during the year. Although no statutory action was taken, the Council resolved that the attention of the Ministry of Food be drawn to the matter. In October the Minister of Food made an Order prohibiting the manufacture of food substitutes except under a Licence granted by him.

Three milk products were prosecuted for selling, to a retailer, which was deficient in solids not fat. One case had to be withdrawn owing to the bottle containing the third part being broken, the second case was dismissed by the Justices, and in the third case a fine of £ 5 was imposed.

Unsound Food. (Section 9). A number of sticks of liquorice were seized by an Inspector and condemned by a Justice of the Peace who ordered their destruction. The Council decided, owing to the special circumstances of the case, not to prosecute.

The following imported meat and other foods were found to be unfit and surrendered. Wherever the nature of the goods permitted, the articles were sent for salvage.

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Apples | 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. | Bacon | 46 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. |
| Beans. | 2 tins. | Beef | 145 lbs. |
| Biscuits | 9 lbs. | Butter and Margarine | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. |
| Carrots. | 10 tins. | Cooked Meat | 30 lbs. |
| Custard Powder | 8 packets. | Cooking Fat | 3 lbs. |
| Cheese | 25 lns. | Cakes | 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. |
| Cocoa | 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. | Eggs | 4. |
| Fish | 392 lns. | Flour | 55 lbs. |
| Jam | 10 lbs. | Liver | 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. |

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
| Meat (tinned)..... | 34 lbs. | Milk (tinned) | 26 tins. |
| Marmalade..... | 9 lbs. | Onions | 62 lbs. |
| Pears | 50 tins. | Pork | 35 lbs. |
| Pilchards | 3 tins. | Pickles | 2 jars. |
| Pineapple | 34 tins. | Poultry | 90 lbs. |
| Paste | 15 jars. | Rice and Sago | 3 lbs. |
| Sauce | 13 bots. | Sardines..... | 2 tins. |
| Sugar | 9 lbs. | Salmon..... | 1 tin. |
| Sausages | 39 lbs. | Soup..... | 2 tins. |
| Sweets | 2 lbs. | Tea | 17 lbs. |
| Wine | 1 bot. | | |

In addition to the above quantities, various foods were dealt with following enemy action. Prompt action by the Inspectors enabled much of this to be salvaged in a fit condition, or rendered fit by suitable treatment.

Precautions against Contamination of Food.-(Section 13). The attention of all occupiers was constantly drawn to the necessity of thorough cleanliness and care and attention by all food handlers.

Slaughter Houses. (Section 57). The Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order 1940 continued to operate, all slaughtering of food animals for Eastbourne and surrounding districts being carried out at the Ministry of Food Selected Slaughterhouse. The Sanitary Inspectors maintained a 100% inspection of all carcasses and their organs, although this made necessary many special visits to inspect carcasses of animals which had been so injured that immediate slaughter was necessary. From the following table it will be noted that the percentage of cows killed found to be affected with tuberculosis stands at the very high figure of 43.04% compared with 35.5% in 1940. Willing co-operation by Officials of the Ministry of Food at the slaughterhouse has facilitated the work of inspection. An increase was noted in the number of cows slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order 1938.

Carcasses inspected and condemned.

| | Cattle excluding cows. | Cows. | Calves. | Sheep and Lambs. | Pigs. |
|--|------------------------------|--------|---------|------------------------|-------|
| Number killed | 1175. | 755. | 298. | 7113. | 1846. |
| Number inspected | 1175. | 755. | 298. | 7113. | 1846. |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis: | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | 6. | 1. | 21. | 3. |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 65. | 108. | 8. | 202. | 66. |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis | 5.5. | 15.09. | 3. | 3.2. | 3.7. |
| Tuberculosis only: | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 7. | 48. | 2. | - | 3. |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 160. | 277. | 13. | - | 60. |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | 14.2. | 43.04. | 5. | - | 3.4. |

Knackers Yard. (Section 57). This yard was visited daily by the Inspectors and all the carcasses intended for animal food inspected, tuberculous and cystic meat being rejected. The premises are kept in a clean condition and the regulations regarding humane slaughtering and staining of carcasses with naphthalene green are carried out.

Milk and Dairies Orders 1926 to 1938.

| | |
|---|------|
| Milk Producers and Wholesale Traders on Register | 15. |
| Milk Retailers on Register (80 of these retail milk in sealed bottles only)..... | 117. |

Having regard to the difficulties experienced by producers due to a shortage of labour, the employment of young and inexperienced persons, and the continued black-out and ventilation problem, the standard of cleanliness was well maintained.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 to 1941. Licences were granted as follows:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Producers Licence to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" | 1. |
| Producers Licence to use the designation "Accredited" | 10. |
| Pasteurisers Licence | 2. |
| Dealers Licence to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested"..... | 4. |
| Dealers Licence to use the designation "Pasteurised" | 8. |
| Supplementary Licence | 1. |

Twenty four samples of designated milk were taken for examination, viz:

| | <u>Examined.</u> | <u>Satisfactory.</u> | <u>Unsatisfactory.</u> |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Tuberculin Tested. | 4. | 4. | - |
| Accredited | 16. | 13. | 3. |
| Pasteurised | 4. | 4. | - |

Repeat samples were taken in the case of those proving unsatisfactory. One producer was warned, but no Licence was revoked during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Sixty five cases of infectious disease were notified to the Department as compared with 413 in 1940, and 390 in 1939. There were 36 admissions of cases resident in the Borough to the Sanatorium. (367 in 1940 and 226 in 1939).

Scarlet Fever. Five cases were notified, of whom 2 were adults. All were classified as of average severity and made satisfactory recoveries.

Diphtheria. Four of the 7 cases notified were adults. They were classified as follows:

| | <u>Mild.</u> | <u>Average.</u> | <u>Severe.</u> |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Faucial | - | 4. | 2. |
| Nasal | 1 | - | - |

Puerperal Pyrexia. The causes of Pyrexia in the 4 cases notified were:

| | |
|--|----|
| Prolonged labour and ruptured membranes | 1. |
| Pernicious anaemia (fatal) | 1. |
| Albuminuria, eclamptic fits, forceps delivery. | 1. |
| Cause unknown | 1. |

Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1941.

| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Admitted to Isolation Hospital. | Total Deaths. |
|----------------------------|--------|----------|--------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 4. | 1. | 5. | 5. | - |
| Diphtheria. | 1. | 6. | 7. | 7. | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | - | 4. | 4. | - | 1. |
| Acute Primary Pneumonia. | 7. | 5. | 12. | - | 3 |
| Erysipelas. | 5. | 2. | 7. | - | - |
| Whooping Cough. | 7. | 5. | 12. | - | - |
| Dysentery. | 1. | - | 1. | - | - |
| Measles. | 7. | 8. | 15. | 3. | - |
| Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. | 2. | - | 2. | 1. | - |
| Total. | 34. | 31. | 65. | 16. | 4. |

Monthly Summary of Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

| | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria. | Dysentery. | Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. | Puerperal Pyrexia. | Pneumonia. | Erysipelas. | Whooping Cough. | Measles. | Total. |
|------------|----------------|-------------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|----------|--------|
| January. | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | 3 |
| February. | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 5 |
| March. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | 5 |
| April. | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 6 | 10 |
| May. | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 11 |
| June. | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 9 |
| July. | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| August. | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | - | 4 |
| September. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| October. | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| November. | - | - | - | - | - | 6 | 2 | 1 | - | 9 |
| December. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL. | 5. | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 12 | 7 | 12 | 15 | 65 |

Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Cases admitted from the Borough.

| | In Hosp. 1st Jan. | Admitted. | Discharged. | Died. | In Hosp. 31st Dec. |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------|-------|-----------------------|
| Scarlet Fever. | - | 5 | 5 | - | - |
| Diphtheria. | - | 7 | 7 | - | - |
| Diphtheria Carriers. | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Measles. | - | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| Mumps. | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Scabies. | - | 12 | 12 | - | - |
| Chicken Pox. | - | 4 | 3 | - | 1 |
| TOTAL. | - | 36 | 35 | - | 1 |

Cases admitted from the Rural District of Hailsham.

| | In Hosp. 1st Jan. | Admitted. | Discharged. | Died. | In Hosp. 31st Dec. |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------|-------|-----------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | - | 17 | 14 | - | 3 |
| Observation: | - | 6 | 5 | - | 1 |
| Mumps. | - | 11 | 11 | - | - |
| Whooping Cough | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Diphtheria. | - | 3 | 2 | - | 1 |
| Measles. | - | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| Chicken Pox. | - | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Verminous. | - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Scabies. | - | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. | - | 4 | 3 | 1 | - |
| Total. | - | 51 | 45 | 1 | 5 |

Scabies. The number of cases brought to the notice of the Department was 127 (95 in 1940). It will be seen from the following that 116 of the cases received institutional treatment.

| | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> | <u>Children.</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| St. Mary's Hospital. | 6 | 40. | 58. |
| Borough Sanatorium. | 1. | 4. | 7. |
| At home. | - | 4. | 7. |
| | <u>7</u> | <u>48.</u> | <u>72.</u> |

Diphtheria Immunisation. Two hundred and fifty two pre-school children and 654 children of school age were immunised through the Department, as compared with 16 and 183 respectively in the previous year.

Laboratory Services.

Bacteriological Examinations in the Medical Officer of Health's Laboratory.

| | <u>Positive.</u> | <u>Negative.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| <u>Diphtheria Swabs:</u> | | | |
| For Practitioners. | 1. | 31. | 32. |
| For Isolation Hospital. | 6. | 134. | 140. |
| For Clinics (including contacts)... | <u>1.</u> | <u>73.</u> | <u>74.</u> |
| | <u>8.</u> | <u>238.</u> | <u>246.</u> |
| <u>Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli:</u> | | | |
| For Practitioners | 9. | 47. | 56. |
| For T.B. Section, Borough Sanatorium. | 8. | 15. | 23. |
| For Dispensary. | <u>16.</u> | <u>57.</u> | <u>73.</u> |
| | <u>33.</u> | <u>119.</u> | <u>152.</u> |

Other Bacteriological and Pathological Examinations carried out on behalf of the Local Authority.

| | |
|---|-----|
| By Dr A.G.Shera | 77. |
| By the Clinical Research Association. | 8. |
| By Dr S.Allinson Woodhead, Public Analyst. | 2. |

Examination of hairs for ringworm by the Woods' Light Test were carried out by Dr E.Owen Fox in 2 cases.

X - Ray Examinations.

The following X ray examinations were carried out at St. Mary's Hospital:

Chest:

| | | |
|--|------------|------|
| For Tuberculosis Dispensary. | 115. | |
| For T.B. Section, Borough Sanatorium | <u>13.</u> | 128. |

Maternity and Child Welfare:

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|----|
| For diagnosis | | 1. |
|-------------------------|--|----|

Orthopaedic.

| | | |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| School Medical Cases | 3. | |
| Maternity and Child Welfare cases | 4. | |
| Tuberculosis | <u>2.</u> | <u>9.</u> |
| Total. | | <u>138.</u> |

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases of this disease on the Eastbourne register at the close of 1941 was 173, or 21 in excess of the number at the commencement of the year. Of these, 125 were pulmonary and 58 non pulmonary cases.

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining institutional treatment for pulmonary cases, a Pavilion was adapted and opened at the Infectious Diseases Hospital on 21st August to provide accommodation for 17 patients.

Notifications during 1941.

| <u>Age Groups.</u> | <u>Pulmonary.</u> | | <u>Non Pulmonary.</u> | | <u>Total.</u> | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> |
| Under 1 year. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 - 5 years. | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 5 - 10 years. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10 - 15 years. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 15 - 20 years. | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| 20 - 25 years. | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 2 |
| 25 - 35 years. | 8 | 4 | - | - | 8 | 4 |
| 35 - 45 years. | 5 | 1 | 1 | - | 6 | 1 |
| 45 - 55 years. | 4 | 2 | - | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| 55 - 65 years. | 5 | 1 | - | - | 5 | 1 |
| Over 65 years. | <u>2</u> | <u>1</u> | - | <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>2</u> |
| | 29 (30) | 14 (13) | 5 (11) | 7 (4) | 34 (41) | 21 (17) |

Of the cases notified during 1941 81 per cent of the pulmonary and 83 per cent of the non pulmonary cases received institutional treatment.

Of the 55 cases notified, 33 pulmonary and 11 non pulmonary were new cases not previously notified in any other district. Of these 55 cases institutional treatment was provided by the Local Authority for 30 pulmonary and 6 non pulmonary cases. In addition, 3 pulmonary and 4 non pulmonary cases notified during the year received institutional treatment through other sources.

Notification Register - Number of Cases on Register.

| | <u>Pulmonary.</u> | | <u>Non Pulmonary.</u> | | <u>Total.</u> | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> |
| On 1st January 1941. | 65. | 53. | 15. | 19. | 80. | 72. |
| On 31st December 1941. | 81. | 54. | 18. | 20. | 99. | 74. |

Dispensary - Cases on Dispensary Register at commencement and end of 1941.

| | <u>Pulmonary.</u> | | | | <u>Non Pulmonary.</u> | | | | <u>Total.</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|---------------|
| | <u>Adults.</u> | | <u>Children.</u> | | <u>Adults.</u> | | <u>Children.</u> | | |
| | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | |
| On 1st January 1941. | 57. | 38. | 1 | - | - | 2 | 3 | 6 | 107. |
| on 31st December 1941. | 69. | 37. | 2 | - | 1 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 128. |

• Dispensary Cases attending during 1941.

| | Adults. | | Children. | |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| | Cases. | Attendances. | Cases. | Attendances. |
| Pulmonary. | 65 | 250 | 1 | 8 |
| Non Pulmonary. | 5 | 11 | 7 | 18 |
| Contacts. | 2 | 20 | 4 | 22 |
| Observation. | 37 | 51 | - | - |
| | <u>109.</u> | <u>332.</u> | <u>12</u> | <u>48.</u> |

Institution Treatment.

| | T.B. Section. Borough | | | Other | | | Total. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| | Sanatorium. | | | Institutions. | | | |
| | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>C.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | <u>C.</u> | |
| In Hospital, 1st January. | - | - | - | 4 | 5 | 3 | 12 |
| Admitted during the year. | 18 | - | - | 6 | 11 | 6 | 41 |
| Discharged. | 9 | - | - | 7 | 15 | 4 | 25 |
| Died. | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | - | 3 |
| In Hospital, 31st December. | 9 | - | - | 2 | 9 | 5 | 25 |

Extra Nourishment.

Four thousand three hundred and sixty pints of milk were supplied free to 21 females, and seven thousand four hundred and forty eight pints to 40 males.

Home Treatment Allowances.

Financial assistance was afforded in two cases by means of weekly home treatment allowances.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The total attendances at the Clinic were 529, a decrease on the previous years figures of 74. The following are details of the cases treated.

| | Males. | | Females. | | Total. | | Grand Total. |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | Old Cases. | New Cases. | Old Cases. | New Cases. | Males. | Females | |
| Syphilis. | 26 (25) | 1 (11) | 17 (25) | 1 (1) | 27 (36) | 18 (26) | 45 (62) |
| Gonorrhoea. | 48 (16) | 2 (15) | 1 (3) | 1 (-) | 50 (31) | 2 (3) | 52 (34) |
| Soft Chancre. | - (1) | - (-) | - (-) | - (-) | - (1) | - (-) | - (1) |
| Other conditions. | - (-) | 21 (13) | - (-) | 16 (20) | 21 (13) | 16 (20) | 37 (33) |
| Total. | <u>74 (42)</u> | <u>24 (39)</u> | <u>18 (28)</u> | <u>18 (21)</u> | <u>98 (81)</u> | <u>36 (49)</u> | <u>134 (130).</u> |

Pathological Work. Five hundred and fifty nine (437) specimens in connection with venereal disease were examined at the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital Laboratory by Dr A.G. Shera, who is also Medical Officer of the Venereal Diseases Clinic.

CIVIL DEFENCE.

The organisation of the five combined First Aid Party and Ambulance Depots, and the two Fixed and two Mobile First Aid Posts was maintained as in the previous year. From March, the three Public Gas Cleansing Centres at Eldon Road High School, Eastbourne College, and Churchdale Road, were staffed day and night by a nucleus of paid personnel.

Of a total effective personnel of 271 at the end of the year, 91 were on a full time paid basis, the remainder being part time volunteers. Weekly practices were held at each Depot and Post and practically all the part time members of the Service put in 48 hours per month on stand by duty. A series of inter-Depot and Post Competitions held from June onwards aroused much enthusiasm and friendly rivalry amongst the personnel, and helped very considerably in their team training.

BLIND PERSONS.

Of the 75 blind persons on the register at the end of 1940, 2 died, and 3 left Eastbourne. Seven persons were added to the register, bringing the total at the end of the year to 77, viz. 33 males and 44 females.

Domiciliary assistance was afforded to blind persons during the year through the Department, weekly allowances being granted to 22 cases involving an expenditure of £494..12s.

Despite the upheaval of evacuation, the Eastbourne Voluntary Society for the Blind carried on with its customary excellent work. The Chairmen and members kept in touch with blind persons in reception areas as well as those left in Eastbourne. Through the enthusiasm of the members of this Society, blind persons are enabled to obtain many additional comforts which help in no small way to lighten the burden of their affliction.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY

Mental Defectives. Two males were notified by the Local Education Authority, and 4 females were certified and added to the Register. Three males were removed from the register, 1 female died, and 1 male and 1 female were transferred to other areas. The total on the register at the end of the year was 77 males and 82 females. Of these, 58 were in Institutions, 9 on licence from Institutions, 8 under Guardianship, and 84 under supervision.

Domiciliary assistance to mental defectives was dealt with through the Department, 18 cases receiving a total of £525..9s. through weekly payments.

Nervous Diseases. The Clinic for Nervous Diseases at the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital continued to function successfully under Dr B.Reid. There were 36 new cases, of whom 4 were admitted to mental hospitals, 1 to another Institution, and 2 removed from Eastbourne. The remainder were treated at the Clinic. The attendances numbered 105.

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